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A.D. 1875, 14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER. N° 3568.  
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Feeding Bottles.

(This Invention received Provisional Protection only.)

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by Reuben Phelps, and George Phelps, and Charles William Phelps at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with their Petition, on the 14th October 1875.

5 We, REUBEN PHELPS, and GEORGE PHELPS, and CHARLES WILLIAM PHELPS, all of Birmingham, in the County of Warwick, Jewellers, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for “IMPROVEMENTS IN INFANTS’ AND INVALIDS’ FEEDING BOTTLES,” to be as follows:—

Our Invention consists in applying to the elastic tube of infants’ and
10 invalids’ feeding bottles a regulating or closing apparatus, the parts of which are constructed and combined as herein-after described, for the purpose of regulating the quantity of liquid food passing through the said elastic tube, or for closing the said tube and thereby preventing the passage of liquid or air through it.

15 Regulating or closing apparatus constructed according to our Invention is readily connected to and detached from the elastic tube without the necessity for removing the elastic tube from the feeding bottle.

R., G., & C. W. Phelps' Improvements in Feeding Bottles.

The apparatus consists of a rectangular metallic frame of a size proper to admit of the tube working freely within it. In one side of the said rectangular frame is an opening through which the elastic tube when in a compressed or flattened state can be passed into or removed from the frame. After the elastic tube has been passed through the lateral 5 opening described into the frame that part of the tube which has been compressed resumes its normal shape, and the frame is secured to the tube and cannot be removed therefrom excepting by compressing the tube and drawing the compressed part through the lateral opening. In the said frame is a square or angular valve or pressing plate connected 10 to a screw working through one end of the frame, the end of the screw external to the said frame being furnished with a milled head for turning the screw. The screw swivels or turns on the valve or pressing plate, but the valve is capable only of a sliding motion within the frame. By turning the screw by its milled head the valve or plate can 15 be made to approach the bottom of the frame and compress more or less the elastic tube between itself and the said bottom of the frame.

The passage of the liquid food through the elastic tube at the compressed part is thereby more or less obstructed or completely cut off. When the valve or pressing plate is driven home so as to cut off the 20 supply of liquid food through the tube the passage of air into or the drawing of air from the bottle is also prevented.

By adjusting the position of the valve or pressing plate with respect to the bottom of the frame the quantity of liquid food which may be drawn through the tube may be regulated with great nicety. 25

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